

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 15 and add new Claims 20-25 as indicated below. The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all previous versions and listings of claims in the present application.

Claim 1 (Original): A storage device comprising a cartridge having a storage medium and a holder portion in which said cartridge is detachably loaded, said holder portion being capable of being loaded with a plurality of types of cartridges having different lengths in an inserting/removing direction, wherein

said holder portion includes:

a locking portion which is disposed at a first distance in the inserting/removing direction of said cartridge from an insertion port of said cartridge, and releasably locks said cartridge, and

a positioning member which is provided to be movable in the inserting/removing direction of said cartridge, and determines a leading end position in an inserting direction of said cartridge, and

said cartridge includes

an engaging portion which is disposed at a second distance in the inserting/removing direction of said cartridge from a trailing end in the inserting direction of said cartridge, and engages with said locking portion,

the second distance being common among said plurality of types of cartridges.

Claim 2 (Original): The storage device according to claim 1, wherein the first and second distances are substantially the same.

Claim 3 (Original): The storage device according to claim 1, further comprising an elastic member which constantly biases said positioning member toward the insertion port of said cartridge.

Claim 4 (Original): A storage device comprising a cartridge having a storage medium and a holder portion in which said cartridge is detachably loaded, said holder portion being capable of being loaded with a plurality of types of cartridges having different lengths in an inserting/removing direction, wherein

said holder portion includes

a positioning member which determines a leading end position in an inserting direction of said cartridge, and

a locking portion which is disposed at a first distance in the inserting/removing direction of said cartridge from said positioning member, and releasably locks said cartridge, and

said cartridge includes

an engaging portion which is disposed at a second distance in the inserting/removing direction of said cartridge from a leading end in the inserting direction of said cartridge, and engages with said locking portion,

the second distance being common among said plurality of types of cartridges.

Claim 5 (Original): The storage device according to claim 1, wherein
said cartridge includes a first electrical connecting portion at said leading end portion in the inserting direction thereof, and
said holder portion has a second electrical connecting portion which is arranged at said positioning member and is connected to said first electrical connecting portion.

Claim 6 (Original): The storage device according to claim 4, wherein
said cartridge includes a first electrical connecting portion at said leading end portion in the inserting direction thereof, and
said holder portion has a second electrical connecting portion which is arranged at said positioning member and is connected to said first electrical connecting portion.

Claim 7 (Original): The storage device according to claim 1, wherein
said cartridge has a guide groove extending in the inserting/removing direction thereof, and
said holder portion has a guide piece which engages with the guide groove.

Claim 8 (Original): The storage device according to claim 4, wherein
said cartridge has a guide groove extending in the
inserting/removing direction thereof, and
said holder portion has a guide piece which engages with the guide
groove.

Claim 9 (Original): The storage device according to claim 7, wherein said
engaging portion is a groove intersecting the guide groove.

Claim 10 (Original): The storage device according to claim 8, wherein said
engaging portion is a groove intersecting the guide groove.

Claim 11 (Original): The storage device according to claim 1, wherein the
storage device is an external storage device for a computer.

Claim 12 (Original): The storage device according to claim 4, wherein the
storage device is an external storage device for a computer.

Claim 13 (Original): The storage device according to claim 1, wherein the
storage device is a storage device incorporated in a computer.

Claim 14 (Original): The storage device according to claim 4, wherein the storage device is a storage device incorporated in a computer.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A cartridge which is detachably loaded in a holder portion in a storage device outside a computer or a storage device incorporated in a computer and has a storage medium, comprising

a connecting portion being electrically connected to said storage device,

an engaging portion which engages with a locking portion provided to said holder portion to releasably lock said cartridge, and is arranged at a predetermined distance in an inserting/removing direction from an end of said cartridge,

the predetermined distance being set common for another cartridge which is detachably loaded in said holder portion and has a length different from that of said cartridge in the inserting/removing direction.

Claim 16 (Original): A cartridge manufacturing method of manufacturing a plurality of cartridges which are detachably loaded in a holder portion for a storage device outside a computer or a storage device incorporated in a computer and have a storage media, the cartridges having different lengths in an inserting/removing direction, comprising

providing an engaging portion at a predetermined distance in the inserting/removing direction from an end of the cartridge, the engaging portion engaging with a locking portion provided to the holder portion to releasably lock the cartridge, and setting the predetermined distance common among the plurality of types of cartridges.

Claim 17 (Original): The cartridge manufacturing method according to claim 16, wherein

the plurality of types of cartridges include a first cartridge, and a second cartridge which is longer than the first cartridge in the inserting/removing direction and has first and second engaging portions as the engaging portion,

regarding the first cartridge, the engaging portion is provided at a first distance from one end portion of the first cartridge and at a second distance from the other end of the first cartridge, and

regarding the second cartridge, the first engaging portion is provided at the first distance from one end portion of the second cartridge, and the second engaging portion is provided at the second distance from the other end portion of the second cartridge.

Claim 18 (Original): A storage device comprising a holder portion in which a cartridge having a storage medium is detachably loaded, said holder portion being capable of being loaded with a plurality of types of cartridges having different lengths in an

inserting/removing direction, the cartridges including engaging portions disposed at a predetermined distance in the inserting/removing direction from a trailing end in an inserting direction of the cartridge, wherein

said holder portion includes

a locking portion which is disposed at a predetermined distance in the inserting/removing direction of the cartridge from an insertion port of the cartridge, and engages with the engaging portion to releasably lock the cartridge, and

a positioning member which is provided to be movable in the inserting/removing direction of the cartridge, and determines a leading end position in an inserting direction of the cartridge.

Claim 19 (Original): A storage device comprising a holder portion in which a cartridge having a storage medium is detachably loaded, said holder portion being capable of being loaded with a plurality of types of cartridges having different lengths in an inserting/removing direction, the cartridges including engaging portions disposed at a predetermined distance in the inserting/removing direction from a leading end in the inserting/removing direction of the cartridge, wherein

said holder portion includes

a positioning member which determines a leading end position in an inserting direction of the cartridge, and

a locking portion which is disposed at a predetermined distance in the inserting/removing direction of the cartridge from said positioning member, and engages with the engaging portion to releasably lock the cartridge.

Claim 20 (New): The cartridge according to claim 15, further comprising a guide groove extending in the inserting/removing direction so that the cartridge is moving stably in the inserting/removing direction.

Claim 21 (New): The storage device according to claim 18, further comprising an applying portion applying force to said cartridge so as to prevent said cartridge from popping out when said cartridge loaded in said holder is unloaded.

Claim 22 (New): The storage device according to claim 18, wherein said holder portion has a electrical connecting portion which is arranged at said positioning member and is electrically connected to said cartridge.

Claim 23 (New): The storage device according to claim 18, further comprising an elastic member which biases said positioning member toward an insertion port of said cartridge.

Claim 24 (New): A set of cartridges of a first cartridge and a second cartridge having different, lengths in an inserting direction and being inserted into a first holder portion in a first device and into a second holder portion in a second device,

said first cartridge comprising:

a first electrical connecting portion to be electrically connected to said first device and said second device;

a first engaging portion which engages with a locking portion provided to said second holder portion to releasably lock said first cartridge, said first engaging portion being arranged at a first distance from said electrical connecting portion; and

a second engaging portion which engages with a locking portion provided to said first holder portion to releasably lock said first cartridge, said second engaging portion being arranged at said second distance from the other side of said first electrical connecting portion, and

said second cartridge comprising:

a second electrical connecting portion to be electrically connected to said first device and said second device; and

a third engaging portion which engages with a locking portion provided to said first holder portion to releasably lock said second cartridge and to said second holder portion to releasably lock said second cartridge, said third engaging portion being arranged at said first distance from said second electrical connecting portion and at said second distance from the other side of said second electrical connecting portion.

Claim 25 (New): A set of cartridges of a first cartridge and a second cartridge having different lengths in an inserting direction and being inserted into a first holder portion in a first device and into a second holder portion in a second device,

said first cartridge comprising:

a first electrical connecting portion to be electrically connected to said first device and said second device;

a first engaging portion which engages with a locking portion provided to said second holder portion to releasably lock said first cartridge, said first engaging portion being arranged at a first distance from said first electrical connecting portion; and

a second engaging portion which engages with a locking portion provided to said first holder portion to releasably lock said first cartridge, said second engaging portion being arranged so that the other side of said first electrical connecting portion is not exposed out of said first holder portion when said first cartridge is inserted into said first holder portion in a first storage device, and

said second cartridge comprising:

a second electrical connecting portion to be electrically connected to said first device and said second device; and

a third engaging portion which engages with a locking portion provided to said first holder portion to releasably lock said second cartridge, and to said second holder portion to releasably lock said second cartridge, said third engaging portion being arranged at said first distance from said second electrical connecting portion and

being arranged so that the other side of said second electrical connecting portion is not exposed out of said first holder portion when said second cartridge is inserted into said first holder portion.